



John Reich Journal

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The purpose of the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS) is to encourage the study of numismatics, particularly United States gold and silver coins minted before the introduction of the Seated Liberty design, and to provide technical and educational information concerning such coins.

Annual dues \$25.00
Life Membership \$625.00

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The John Reich Journal is the official publication of the Society and is distributed to all members in good standing. Members are encouraged to submit any articles encouraging the study of numismatics and / or relating to early United States gold and silver coins to the editors. Especially needed are articles containing new information about die marriages, die states of published die marriages, attribution methods, collections, collectors, etc.

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Cover Photos: The 1800 LM-2 pictured exhibits catastrophic obverse die damage prior to striking this coin which would fall under the rim to rim cud definition, which is the rarest type of cud found on coinage. A flake or piece of the die fell off, perhaps because of a lamination that detached or from a significant impact to the obverse die from a foreign piece of metal that was struck by the die during coinage. Of the eight to ten known examples from this die pairing, this is the only example to exhibit this unique rim to rim cud or any hint of its appearance on the known examples. It was purchased by Jim Matthews in 1990 and sold to Jules Reiver with the right to repurchase the coin at a later date. It is PCGS VG-8 with a CAC sticker. It has always been one of the favorite coins in my collection.

Photos courtesy of Bill Noyes, Jim Matthews Collection.

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The John Reich Collectors Society wants you!

To recruit one new member to our organization, copy this membership or direct them to our new website, www.jrcs.org.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Type or Print

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The purpose of The John Reich Collectors Society ("JRCS") is to encourage the study of numismatics, particularly United States silver and gold coins minted before the introduction of the Seated Liberty design, and to provide technical and educational information concerning such coins. A member's name and address will not be included in any membership directory issued by JRCS or be disclosed to others without prior consent of such member.

Check the appropriate space below:

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Indicate your area(s) of interest in Early United States Coins:

a	Flowing Hair Bust Half Dimes	h	Capped Bust Quarter Dollars
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d	Draped Bust Small Eagle Dimes	k	Capped Bust Half Dollars
e	Draped Bust Heraldic Eagle Dimes	l	Flowing Hair Bust Dollars
f	Capped Bust Dimes	m	Draped Bust Dollars
g	Draped Bust Quarter Dollars	n	Gold Issues

I hereby apply for membership in JRCS. As required by the By-Laws of JRCS I agree to pay promptly all my debts or other obligations to JRCS or any of its members. I enclose a check or money order for \$25.00 payable to "John Reich Collectors Society" for my annual membership contribution, or \$625.00 for a life membership in the Society.

Dated: _____ (Signature of applicant)

If applying for reinstatement, please give your former JRCS member # _____

Guarantee (if Applicant is under 21 years):

I guarantee payment by the Applicant of his/her debts or other obligations to JRCS or any of its members. I am 21 years or older.

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Relation to Applicant

Sponsor's Statement:

I sponsor the above Applicant for membership in JRCS. My JRCS member number is # _____

(Signature of Sponsor Member)

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Visit <http://brycebooks.squarespace.com/storage/Lit-Periodicals-display-htm.htm>
for a complete listing of the issues in stock.

John Reich Journal

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Editor's Comments

Welcome to the pre-ANA issue of the John Reich Journal. We hope to see many of you at the upcoming convention and our annual meeting which will be held on Wednesday August 6 at 8-9:30AM in room 22 of the Donald E. Stephens convention center. We will be conducting the annual business of the society including election of officers for the upcoming year, announcing the winner of the Jules Reiver Literary Award and the results of the Hall of Fame voting. Everyone will have the opportunity to meet fellow members of the club and exchange ideas and experiences with the bust coinages.

There will be other meetings at the convention that would be of interest to the collectors of the Reich coinages. Later in the day on Wednesday the Bust Quarter Collectors Society will meet in room 40. On Thursday the Bust Half Nut Club will have their general meeting in room 42 of the convention center. All collectors of bust half dollars are welcome to attend the meeting.

You can go to the American Numismatic Association's website at money.org to see the full schedule of meetings and educational presentations for this year's World's Fair of Money show.

You can read the review of this year's adventure of Dr. Glenn Peterson who attended the EAC convention in Colorado Springs. His review of the silver coins exhibited at the silver happening will give some insight into the event. Unfortunately, this will be the last year that we are officially part of the EAC convention. The officers of EAC contacted us after the convention with some concerns that they did not feel the arrangement has gone as well as expected. After much discussion between the officers we felt that it was best to mutually agree to end the arrangement. JRCS members are still welcome to attend the conventions and even setup if they hold an EAC membership, but we will no longer sponsor a happening at the show. We would like to thank the officers of EAC responsible for the arrangement over the last few years.

The next issue of the journal is due out this fall and we have no articles held over for publication. Please consider sending something to share with the membership. I'm sure there will be a review of the ANA activities, but other submissions are encouraged. Your will be eligible to win the prestigious Jules Reiver Literary Award next year! Also, Capped Bust half dollar collectors, please remember to send your census to Steve Herrman as outlined below.

NOTICE

Capped Bust Half Dollar Census information is now being solicited for inclusion in the next issue of the **John Reich Journal**. Please email your complete inventory listing (Including ALL duplicates and die states) of your R4-R8 Bust Halves dated 1807-1836 or any questions to:

Steve Herrman at herrman102@aol.com

Or, via fax to: Steve Herrman 303-989-6393

Please Respond promptly to ensure inclusion of your collection in this Census.
See page 20 for a complete list of the Die Marriages included in the Census.



Yellow Fever & The Mint Closing of September 1, 1797

By David Finkelstein

Introduction

A Yellow Fever epidemic struck Philadelphia during the summer and fall of 1793. Its epicenter was the wharves along the Delaware River, near Water and Front Streets. 4,041 people out of the approximately 50,000 residents of Philadelphia died.¹ Over 10,000 Philadelphians fled the city.² The capitol of our nation was shut down. Many government officials and federal offices relocated outside of the city or to other states. The Mint stopped all operations and closed its doors. In November, 1793, when the epidemic dwindled, life in Philadelphia got back to normal, and the Mint reopened.

Yellow Fever returned in the summers of 1794, 1795 and 1796. The maliciousness of the fever and the number of deaths were negligible compared to epidemic of 1793.¹ Yellow Fever also returned in the summer of 1797. This time, the epidemic resulted in approximately 1,300 deaths and widespread panic.¹ As in prior years, the epicenter was near the wharves along the Delaware River (near Water and Penn Streets). The epidemic spread in all directions, like the expanding blast radius of a nuclear explosion. With the memory of the 1793 epidemic on their minds, people realized that they were “sitting ducks” if they remained in Philadelphia. Many that had enough money, fled the city shortly after the outbreak. Once again, the capitol of our nation was shut down, and government officials and federal offices relocated outside of the city or to other states. The public notice to the right was published in the September 4, 1797 edition of Claypoole’s American Daily Advertiser (Philadelphia).

REMOVALS. The Secretary of State's office is removed to Trenton. The War Office to the falls of the Schuyl- kill, The offices of the Treasury Department to Grey's Ferry, and The Post Master General's Office to Tren- ton. The President of the United States is at Braintree (Massachusetts). The Secretary of State at Trenton. The Secretary of War, five miles south of Downington, Pennsylvania. The Secretary of the Treasury is in Con- necticut—and The Attorney General of the United States in Virginia.
--

Prior to 1881, physicians believed that Yellow Fever was contagious and transmitted via the air or by human contact. It was not. In 1881, Carlos Finlay proposed that Yellow Fever was transmitted via female mosquito bites.³ In the late 1890s, a team of doctors lead by Walter Reed proved it was a virus spread by bites of the female Aedes aegypti mosquito from South America and Africa.⁴ Female mosquitoes lay their eggs on water. The eggs hatch in 4 to 10 days.⁵ When eggs were laid on the surface of exposed water barrels on ships about to sail from South American ports, they would

hatch around the time the ships arrived at their U. S. destinations. This explains why the epicenters of the outbreaks were near the wharves.

Philadelphia Was Panic Stricken

In the 18th century, the only method for providing news to the masses was via printed newspapers. Nine newspapers operated in Philadelphia between June-1797 & Dec-1797. Not all of the newspapers were published every day. Since travel to other cities was via foot, horse or boat, news from other cities was usually one to three weeks behind. Newspapers therefore focused on local news, and many times articles from one Philadelphia newspaper were reprinted word for word in other Philadelphia newspapers.

Although a few people died of Yellow Fever during the first two weeks of August, 1797,¹⁵ there was no mention of Yellow Fever in any of the Philadelphia newspapers prior to August 16, 1797. From August 16th through August 31st, the phrase “Yellow Fever” appeared in Philadelphia newspapers 93 times. It is therefore reasonable to assume that enough people were stricken with Yellow Fever by August 15, 1797 to deem it newsworthy and report the possibility of the start of another epidemic.

Newspapers printed statistics of the numbers of children and adults that were buried on a daily basis, by cemetery, and compared the daily death toll to the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793. See Figures 2 and 3. They also provided daily updates with the names and addresses of the newly stricken, and the numbers of people that were admitted, discharged and died in City Hospital. See Figures 4 and 5.

Yellow Fever was thought to be contagious. It was thought to be airborne. Fires were lit in the streets in an attempt to burn up the contagion. Yellow flags were placed on the doors of infected houses. Infected neighborhoods were evacuated and roped off. The infected were quarantined. Tents were erected near the Schuylkill River to house the evacuated.⁶ Philadelphians were in a state of panic.

Boudinot's Provisional Arrangement For Shutting Down The Mint

The Mint was approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile (as the mosquito flies) from the epicenter of the 1797 Yellow Fever outbreak. As the epidemic spread in all directions, and people became sick, the employees of the Mint could see the tidal wave of the fever getting closer and closer to their workplace. On August 28, 1797, Elias Boudinot, Director of the Mint, developed a plan for closing the Mint. The following is the text of his provisional plan.⁷

*Mint of the United States
August 28th 1797*

The Director of the Mint being convinced that a contagious Distemper rages in the City of Philada, and not knowing how soon it may be necessary to shut up the Mint, thinks it prudent to have every Arrangement made for such an Event that all Confusion may be avoided when the same may happen.

He therefore orders

1st. That all Coin ready for Delivery be paid into the Bank of the U States & proper Receipts taken therefor by the Treasurer.

2nd. That the Treasurer do immediately discharge the Ballance due on all the Deposits as far as the Coin on Hand with permit.

3rd. That all the Accounts of the Mint (except for Salaries) be made up to the 31st of this Month & paid off.

4th. That all the broken Dies in the Mint be immediately collected together and destroyed by fire in the presence of the C. Coiner and Engraver.

5th. That all the good Dies, with the Originals & Hubbs be carefully oiled and put in proper Cases, then in flannel and locked up in the iron Chest, with all Bullion and other valuable Property capable of being put therein and locked with two Locks, one Key to be kept by the C. Coiner the other by the Treasurer & the iron Chest to be locked up in the upper Vault.

6th. That the Copper Planchetts be stored in the coining Room below, without opening any of the Boxes.

7th. That the Doorkeeper, who means to remain in the Mint, be allowed any Room he shall choose for his Residence during the Mints being shut up.

8th. That such of the Workmen who shall return to the Mint when it shall be again opened and shall continue at work upwards of one Month (faithfully & diligently), shall receive an extra Allowance for Loss of Time during their Absence, as was paid to the Workmen in 1793; but those who do not return and work as aforesaid shall be considered as discharged from the shutting up of the Mint.

9th. That the Treasurer do pay out of the Monies to his Credit in the Bank of the U States on Account of the U States, such of the Officers and Clerks of the Mint as shall request it, the Amount of their Wages to the 31st Augt to be accounted for by them in the next quarterly Account.

10th. That on the Officers leaving the City, they respectively furnish the Director with a written Direction of the Place where they respectively retire to.

11th. That the Chief Coiner do take Charge of the Horses belonging to the Mint, to get them kept in the Country at the most reasonable Rate being careful that they are kept in good order – That he be permitted to use one of them, on Condition that he keep him well at his own Expense.

12th. That all Keys of the Mint, not kept by special Order by one of the Officers, be delivered to the Doorkeeper who will be careful not to suffer any Body, either Workmen or others, on any pretence to come into the Mint at any time, unless it be the C. Coiner, Assistant to the Coiner, or Engraver, without a written Order from the Director, Chief Coiner or Engraver.

13th. That all the Machines for coining be carefully deprived of every of the Dies, Stakes, Jaws etc. and locked, and the Keys delivered to the Director ~

From WEDNESDAY noon till THURSDAY noon.		Adults.	Children.
Name of Burial Ground.			
Christ Church	-	0	1
St. Peter's	-	2	0
St. Paul's	-	0	0
First Presbyterian	-	0	0
Second Presbyterian	-	0	0
Third Presbyterian	-	0	0
Scotch Presbyterian	-	0	0
Associate Church	-	0	0
St. Mary's Church	-	0	1
Trinity Church	-	0	0
Friends	-	0	0
Free Quakers	-	0	0
Swedes	-	0	1
German Lutheran	-	0	0
German Calvinist	-	0	0
Moravians	-	0	0
Baptists	-	0	0
Methodists	-	0	0
Universalists	-	0	0
Jews	-	0	0
Potter's Field	-	1	0
City Hospital burying-ground*	-	7	0
Kensington†	-	1	1
Coates's	-	0	0
Total for the last 24 hours,		9	4

* Three of these were from the city.
† From Camptown.

Figure 2 - Aurora General Advertiser,
September 7, 1797

Philadelphia, October 11.		
Burials for 24 hours ending yesterday at noon, Grown Persons. Children.		
St. Peter's	1	0
First Presbyterian	1	0
Third Presbyterian	2	0
St. Mary's church	1	1
Swedes'	1	1
German Lutheran	2	0
German Reformed	1	0
Potter's Field*	2	0
City Hospital†	6	0
Kensington‡	1	0
Total	18	2

* From the Bittering house.
† All from the city and suburbs.
‡ From Camptown.
The number of burials on the 10th of October, 1793, was ninety three.

Figure 3 - Claypoole's
American Daily Advertiser,
October 11, 1797

CITY HOSPITAL REPORT,
From 5th to 6th Sept. in the morning.

Admitted since last report,	
Peggy Silcox, opposite No. 111, Mead alley.	
Elizabeth Ellis, Mifflin's alley.	
Elizabeth do. (her daughter) do.	
Mary do. (infant do.) do.	
Sarah do. (infant do.) do.	
Daniel Sisco, workhouse.	
Henry Titt, Harrowgate, taken in the st.	
Jane Montgomery, taken in the street.	
Polly Varmele, Third, 2 doors below Christian street.	
Thos. Bute, Thos. Hardy's, Golden Swan, North Third street.	
Thos. Townsend (a lad) Hill, Tobacconist, New Market.	
Nelly Lovell, Second street, 3d door below Catherine street.	
Hugh Parry (a lad) C. Martin's, Little Water street, 2d door to South.	
Discharged.	
Wm. Overman, admitted 31st ult.	
Henry Gingle, 3d inst.	
Died.	
Nathaniel Foster, admitted 1st inst.	
Mary El is (aged 16 months) 8 hours after admission.	
Remaining last report	26
Admitted	13
	—
Discharged	2
Died	2
	—
Remain in hospital	35
Convalecents	6
Sick	29
Account of burials in city hospital burying ground, from 5th to 6th September, in the morning:	
From the city and suburbs	2
From the city hospital	2
	—
Total	4

Figure 4- Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser,
September 7, 1797

CITY HOSPITAL REPORT,
From the 25th to 26th September, in the morning.

Admitted since last report,	
Richard Jones	38, Plum street.
Mary Queen	26, Shippen street.
Guy Blakely, John M'Laughlin's, Peanning-ton's alley, between Fifth and Sixth streets.	
Edward Reilly	184, south Water street.
Tabitha Walton	47, Union street.
Robert M'Cauley, M'Leod's, Front, near the Rope Walks.	
Wm. M'Creery	196, south Second street.
Francis Ward	Fifth below Walnut street.
Theobald M'Mahon, sign of the Rattlesnake	
	Walnut street.

Discharged since last report,	
James Field	admitted 14th
Rachael M'Intosh	14th
Elizabeth Adams	11th
Andre (Spaniard)	2d
Isaac Hoffman	7th
	Eloped.
Michael M'Faden	admitted 24th
	Died since last report,
Laurence Huddlestone	admitted 23d
John Chapman	21st
William Hamilton	23d
Remaining last report	57
Admitted since	9
	—
Discharged	5
Eloped	1
Dead	3
	—
Remain in hospital	57
Convalecents	13
Sick	44
	—
Remain in hospital	57
Convalecents	13
Sick	44
	—
Five of whom are dangerous.	
Interred in the City Hospital Burying Ground, since last report,	
From the city and suburbs	11
From the city hospital	3
	—
Total	14

Figure 5- Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser,
September 27, 1797

“That all Coin ready for Delivery be paid into the Bank of the U States”

To comply with Boudinot's first order, all coinage was delivered from the Chief Coiner to the Treasurer of the Mint. On August 28, 1797, 823 Half Dimes, 960 Dimes and 422 Dollars were delivered per Delivery Warrant 98, and 138 Half Eagles were delivered per Delivery Warrant 99.

Boudinot Informed President John Adams of the Pending Shut Down

On August 30, 1797 Elias Boudinot wrote the following letter to President John Adams:⁷

To the President of the United States

*The Report of the Director of
The Mint of the United States*

That finding a contagious Fever prevailing in the City of Philadelphia, of which the Treasurer of the Mint is now laying ill, and that the alarm on this account, has rendered the workmen and officers so uneasy, that the Director finds that he will not be able to keep them much longer together, he has therefore in order to prevent Confusion and Disorder in case it should (from any sudden Immergency) become necessary to shut up the Mint in a hurry, made a provisional arrangement therefor; when that event shall take place, a copy of which he does himself the honor of enclosing, that in case Government should think any other provision necessary, it may be ordered in time ~

*All which is respectfully submitted
(signed) Elias Boudinot, Director*

*Mint of the United States
August 30th 1797*

Henry Voigt Petitioned Boudinot To Shut Down The Mint

Three days after Boudinot documented his plan for shutting down the Mint, Chief Coiner Henry Voigt, on behalf of the officers and workmen of the Mint, requested that the Mint be shut down. See Figure 6. The following is the text of Voigt's petition.⁷

Mint of the U. States Augt. 31st 1797

The Officers & Workmen belonging to the Mint of the U. States, inform the Director that the contagious Fever now prevalent in the City, is increasing – that the Treasurer is now ill with it – that they conceive it very dangerous for them & their families to continue longer in the City, as at least two thirds of its inhabitants have left it, most of the public Offices have been removed, and as all the Bullion (except a few Clippings) is worked up & coined, and the Deposits paid off – they respectively request leave of Absence that they may leave the City till the Fever shall abate or till further Orders, subject however to the Terms of the provisional Arrangement made on the 28th Ultimo ~

*(signed) Henry Voigt, in Behalf
of the Officers & Workmen*

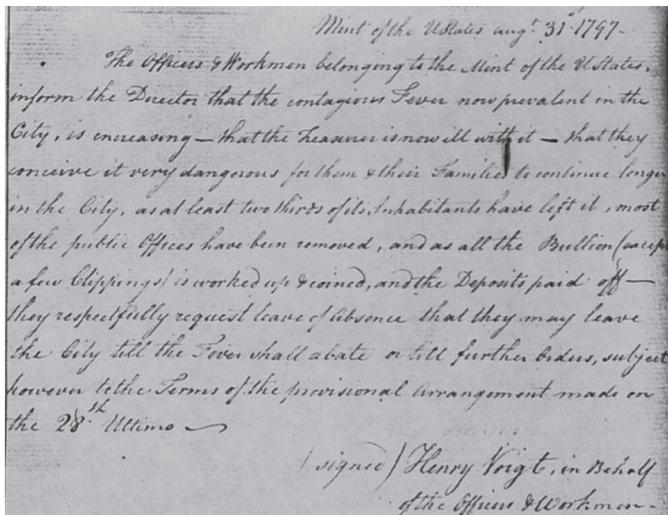


Figure 6 – Henry Voigt Petition, August 31, 1797

Boudinot Authorized The Treasurer To Pay The Officers & Clerks

Prior to shutting down the Mint, Director Boudinot authorized Dr. Nicholas Way, Treasurer of the Mint, to pay the salaries of the officers and clerks. See Figure 7. The following is the text of Boudinot's order.⁷

Nicholas Way, Treasurer of the Mint, is hereby authorized & empowered to pay each of the Officers & Clerks of the Mint as may requested it, the Amt. of the Salaries due to them for their Services therein to this Day inclusive, taking their Receipts for the same ~

*Mint of the U. States
Aug 31st, 1797*

(Signed) Elias Boudinot Direct.

Based on Mint warrants, officers and clerks were paid once every 3 months, at the end of March, June, September and December.^{8,9} The wording of ledger entries made at the end of March, June, September and December specified that the salaries were always paid “in pursuance of a warrant of the Director”.⁹ In order to pay the officers and clerks for 2 months on August 31, 1797, the above special authorization was required. The wording of the ledger entry specified that the salaries paid were “in pursuance of an order of the Director”.⁹

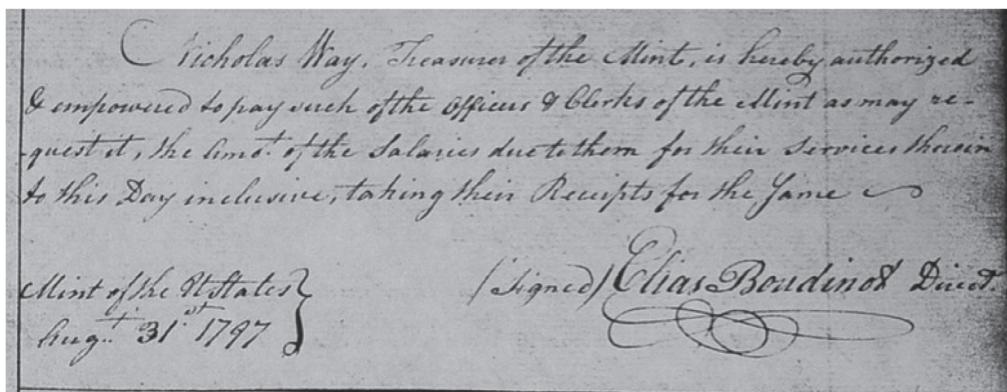


Figure 7 – Elias Boudinot Authorization, August 31, 1797

The Mint Shut Down on September 1, 1797

On Friday, September 1, 1797, Elias Boudinot signed an order to shut down the Mint. The text of Boudinot's order was as follows:⁷

The Officers of the Mint having represented to the Director, that the contagious Fever still prevails & is increasing in the City of Philada – that the Treasurer of the Mint is now confined with – that all the Bullion deposited in the Mint is worked up & coined, except a few Clippings, and the deposits paid off – that there is the utmost danger to them & their families in staying longer in the City exposed to so severe a Disorder – they therefore request to have Permission to leave the City, till the Fever shall abate - The Director concurring their Request to be reasonable – orders that the provisional arrangement of the 28th Ultimo, be immediately carried into execution – That thereupon the Mint be shut up till further Orders, and that the Officers & Workmen (except the Doorkeeper) be discharged from any further Attendance for the present, subject however to the Terms of the provisional Arrangement ~

(signed) Elias Boudinot Director

The Mint Reopened on November 1, 1797

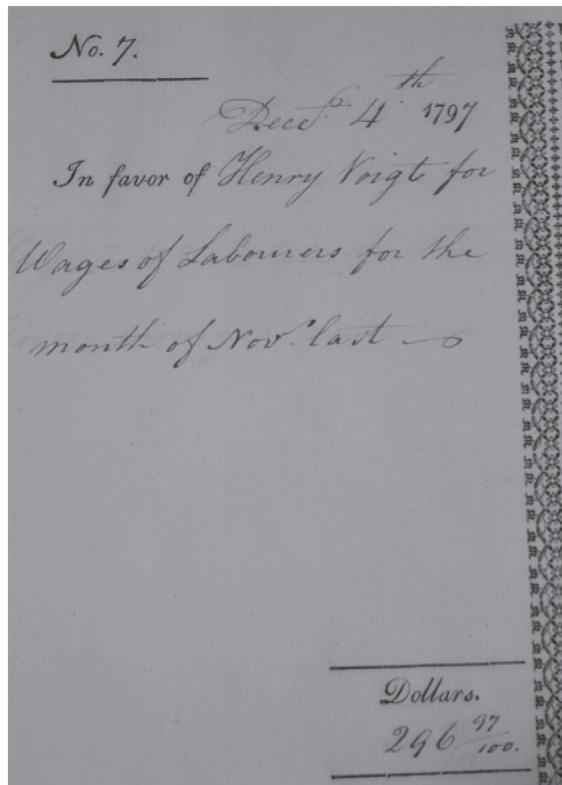
After temperatures cooled, the Yellow Fever epidemic subsided. This is because mosquitoes are hot / warm weather insects. Adult Aedes aegypti mosquitoes die in freezing temperatures, and their larvae die when it is below 50 degrees Fahrenheit.⁵

I have been unable to locate any document that indicates the specific date that the Mint reopened after the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1797 subsided. I do, however, have indirect evidence indicating that the Mint reopened on Wednesday, November 1, 1797. So as Paul Harvey used to say... “and now the rest of the story”.

Paying The Workmen

The workmen of the Mint (e.g., smith, millwright, annealer, pressmen, coiner, drawer, hostler and doorkeeper) were paid every month, on the 1st of the month, for their previous month's wages. This is confirmed on page 10 of "*Orders and Directions for Conducting The Mint Of The United States, Established By Elias Boudinot, Director Of Said Mint. November 2, 1795¹⁰*", by entries in the "*Labor Book 1796-1800¹¹*", and by entries in "*Ledger of the Ordinary Receipts and Expenditures of the Mint Commencing Decemr. 1794⁹*".

The workmen reported to the Chief Coiner, Henry Voigt. Not only is this logical, it is inferred by warrants issued to pay the laborers (see image to the right).¹² Entries in the "*Labor Book 1796-1800¹¹*" state that the workmen were paid in "cash" (see Figure 9), and not by "check". Entries in the "*Ledger of the Ordinary Receipts and Expenditures of the Mint Commencing Decemr. 1794⁹*" are always: "Wages of Labourers Dr [or Debit] To The Bank of the United States". It is therefore reasonable to assume that the workmen were paid in copper, silver and/or gold coins that were minted for the Bank of the United States.



1797	Joseph Germon Dr	Dollars
May 31	By Cash -	3
June 1	By Cash for 9 day work -	5 92
July 1	By Cash for 1 Month -	30 16

Figure 9 – "Cash" Entries In The Labor Book 1796 – 1800

The total amount paid on August 31, 1797 to the workmen for their August wages was \$290.84.⁹ After the Mint reopened, Elias Boudinot issued the following warrants:^{9,12}

1. “Decr 4th 1797 In favor of Henry Voigt for Wages of Laborers for the month of Novr last. Dollars 296 97/100”
2. “Decr 13th 1797 In favor of Henry Voigt, half Wages for Workmen belonging to the Mint, from 1st Sepr to 31st Octr last inclusive. Dollars 287 97/100”.

Based on the above two warrants, the Mint reopened on Wednesday November 1, 1797. The workmen were paid their wages for the entire month of November on December 4, 1797, and half wages for the months of September and October on December 13, 1797.

As per item 8 of Boudinot’s Provisional Arrangement, those workmen that returned to the Mint when it reopened, and worked for one month, would receive an extra allowance for “loss of time” worked. The half wages were from September 1, 1797 to October 31, 1797 “inclusive”. Had the Mint reopened on a date other than November 1st, the workmen’s half wages would have been through a different end date.

Since the wages paid to the workmen on August 31, 1797, just prior to the Mint closing, was almost the same amount for the two months of half wages (which equates to one month of full wages), it is logical to conclude that all workmen returned after the Mint reopened. Had some workmen not returned, the half wages for two months for those workmen that did return would have been noticeably less.

Paying The Officers and Clerks

Payment records, available at the National Archives and Records Administration, for the officers and clerks are very detailed. Per Boudinot’s authorization of August 31, 1797 to Treasurer of the Mint, Nicholas Way, only those officers and clerks requesting it, were paid for July and August prior to the Mint shutting down. Based on ledger entries⁹, the following officers and clerks were paid on August 31, 1797 for July and August:

- Joseph Cloud, Melter & Refiner
- Henry Voigt, Chief Coiner
- Nicholas Way, Treasurer
- Robert Scot, Engraver
- Nathan Thomas, Treasurer’s Clerk

- Isaac Hough, Director's Clerk
- Lodewyck Sharpe, Chief Coiner's Clerk

Mint Director Elias Boudinot and Assayer Joseph Richardson were not paid on August 31, 1797.

On December 4, 1797, all of the above officers and clerks, except Nicholas Way (Treasurer of the Mint), were paid for the month of September. Elias Boudinot and Joseph Richardson were paid for July, August and September, as they were not paid for July and August on August 31, 1797.⁹ On December 30, 1797, all of the officers and clerks, with the exception of Nicholas Way, were paid for October, November and December.^{9,12}

Whereas the workmen received half pay, the officers and clerks received full pay while the Mint was shut down.

Dr. Nicholas Way, Treasurer of the Mint, Died of Yellow Fever

Dr. Nicholas Way, a physician since 1771, and Treasurer of the Mint since May 20, 1794, contracted Yellow Fever on August 28, 1797. He died on September 2, 1797.¹³ For more information, refer to my article titled "*How a Death, a Scandal, a Family Connection and Two Loyal Friends Contributed to Benjamin Rush's Appointment as Treasurer of the United States Mint*" in the JRJ, Volume 23 / Issue 3, December, 2013.

I find it interesting that Dr. Way was paid on August 31, 1797. I find it even more interesting that also on August 31, 1797, he paid the officers and clerks, and gave Henry Voigt the cash to pay the workmen. In 1797, medical science believed that Yellow Fever was highly contagious; either via the air, human contact, or possibly even the exchange of coin. We know now that it is not contagious, even though people have a high fever, turn jaundice, become dehydrated and weak, and excrete bodily fluids from all of their orifices. If someone had Yellow Fever in 1797, there was no hiding it. Anyone who had it was usually quarantined.

Given that Dr. Way, a medical doctor, believed that he was contagious, it is highly unlikely that he was at the Mint on August 31, 1797. Also, considering that everyone believed that Yellow Fever was contagious, it is highly unlikely that Dr. Way would have been allowed to enter the Mint to perform his duties. So who paid the workmen, officers and clerks on August 31, 1797?

The Treasurer's Clerk - Nathan Thomas

My current theory is that Nathan Thomas, the Treasurer's Clerk, dispersed the funds to pay the officers, clerks and workmen on August 31, 1797.

The responsibilities of the Treasurer of the Mint included receiving bullion from depositors, delivering bullion to the Melter and Refiner, receiving coinage from the Chief Coiner, dispersing coinage to depositors, and dispersing funds to the employees.¹⁰ On January 1, 1796, Nathan Thomas began signing Treasurer receipts for the delivery of Half Cents and Large Cents from Chief Coiner Henry Voigt.¹⁴ Refer to Figure 10 for the January 23, 1796 and January 29, 1796 Treasurer receipts that Nathan Thomas signed “*for Nichs Way*” for the delivery of 15,000 and 75,000 Large Cents from Henry Voigt.¹⁴

Since Nathan Thomas performed one function on behalf of the Treasurer of the Mint, it is highly probable that he performed multiple functions on behalf of the Treasurer of the Mint. With Dr. Way being out sick with the “fever”, it is highly probable that Nathan Thomas dispersed the funds to pay the employees on August 31, 1797. Additional research is required to prove or disprove this theory.

Two Important Questions Remain

After reading Boudinot's Provisional Arrangement, two questions came to mind:

1. As per item 7 of Boudinot's Provisional Arrangement, who was the Doorkeeper that remained at the Mint while the entire staff fled the city, how much was he paid, and did he live to collect his pay?
2. As per item 11 of Boudinot's Provisional Arrangement, were the Mint's horses kept for a reasonable rate in the country, and were they kept in good order?

Received 23 January of Henry Voigt	
fifteen thousand cents	\$150
<u>= 15000 cents</u>	
	for Nicholas Way
	N Thomas
Received 29 January 1796 of Henry Voigt	
seventy-five thousand cents	\$750
<u>75,000 cents</u>	
	for Nicholas Way
	N Thomas

Figure 10 – Treasurer Receipts Signed by Nathan Thomas on Behalf of Dr. Nicholas Way

The Doorkeeper – Martin Summers

Martin Summers was the Doorkeeper and Watchman. During 1796, his wages were \$33.33 per month or \$400.00 per year. In February, 1797, he received a 3% raise, and his wages increased by \$1.00 per month to \$34.33 per month or \$412.00 per year.¹¹

While the Mint was shut down during September and October, 1797, Martin Summers lived at the Mint, and stood watch. On December 4, 1797, he was paid twice. First, a warrant was issued to pay him \$68.66 for “two months wages as Door-keeper & Watch from 1st Septr to 31st Octr inclusive”. Next, he was paid by Henry Voigt with the rest of the workmen for his wages for November.¹²

Note: Had the Mint reopened on a date other than November 1st, Martin Summers wages for “Door-keeper and Watch” would have been through a different end date.

The Horses

On December 4, 1797, Henry Voigt was paid \$39.78 for “Hay, Oats & Pasture for three Horses during the Yellow Fever”.¹² That equates to \$6.63 per month per horse for hay, oats and pasture. Apparently, the horses were kept for a “reasonable rate”, and they were kept in “good order”. See Figure 11.

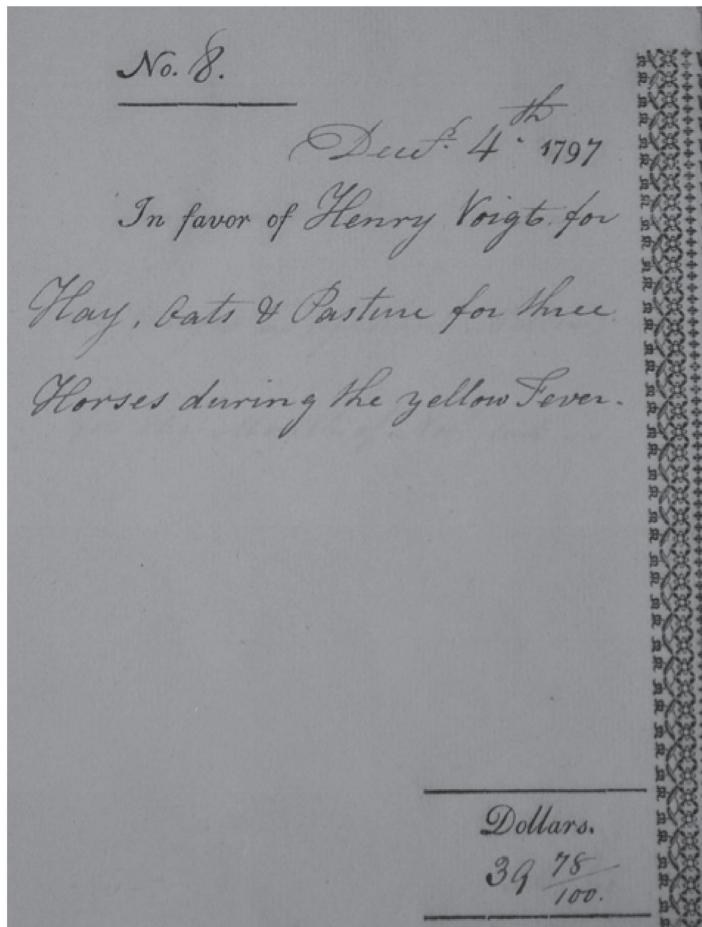


Figure 11 – Warrant To Pay For Hay, Oats & Pasture

Acknowledgements

1. In November, 2012, Ron Guth sent me copies of documents that he made at the National Archives in the 1980s. The documents included Boudinot's Provisional Arrangement, Henry Voigt's petition to shut down the Mint, Boudinot's order to pay the officers and clerks, and Boudinot's order to shut down the Mint. Reading those documents launched the development of this article.
2. Letters of the alphabet were sometimes written differently in the 18th century as compared to today. Without the support of Robert Julian's 18th to 21st century translation skills, my interpretation of multiple Mint documents would have been flawed. In addition, Robert Julian provided images of some of the Mint documents that were referenced to in this article.

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Aedes Aegypti Mosquito



Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

By Stephen J. Herrman

Presented on the following pages is the report of the 2014 Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census as compiled from submissions from our membership. The last census for 1794 to 1807 Bust half dollars appeared in Volume 22 / Issue 2 of the John Reich Journal in August 2012.

The number of known Pre-Turban die marriages continues to stand at 108. No new die marriages have been reported since the discovery of 1806 O.130 in February 2007. Not included in the count is the 1795 O.118 die marriage that remains unknown and possibly may not exist.

The rarity rating estimates used in this census report are based on the Bust Half Nut Club (BHNC) study presented at the August 2004 ANA convention and published in Volume 16 / Issue 3 of the John Reich Journal in June 2005. However, the rarity rating estimates for a few varieties have been adjusted downwards in this report, as new examples have surfaced.

This census report includes two main tables as follows:

The Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census – Top 15 Collections table presents the census of the top 15 collections submitted. The submitters' JRCS membership numbers included in the top row on each page serve to identify individual collections. However, the total, average, and maximum grade columns include all coins from all submissions.

The Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census By Grade table presents the census of the top 15 coins for each variety, as graded by the submitters. Note that the total, average, and maximum grade columns include all coins from all submissions.

Following is a reference table listing the rarity rating levels used in this census report.

Rating	Est Nbr		Rating	Est Nbr		Rating	Est Nbr
R8	1-3		R6-	25-30		R4-	161-200
R7+	4-6		R5+	31-46		R3+	201-300
R7	7-9		R5	47-63		R3	301-500
R7-	10-12		R5-	64-80		R2	501-1000
R6+	13-18		R4+	81-120		R1	over 1000
R6	19-24		R4	121-160			

Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS – TOP 15 COLLECTIONS																				
YEAR	VAR	R.	957	951	918	275	323	1322	978	1006	578	49	1039	19	869	151	222	TOT	Avg	Max
1794	101	3+	10	12				25		15								5	14	25
	102	6+	6			35												3	15	35
	103	5+			8													1	8	8
	104	5	12	6	15			10										5	11	15
	105	5	3			10	6					4			25			6	9	25
	106	6-	12	8		58												4	22	58
	107	6	8	3	20	8												6	11	20
	108	7			10													1	10	10
	109	8																		
	110	7+			6													2	5	6
	111	8																		
1795	101	7			45													1	45	45
	102	4	12	10	20			4										6	10	20
	103	5	20	8			20											4	15	20
	104	4	10	8	25									15				6	14	25
	105	3+	15	8	25	12	15					15			10		15	14	20	58
	106	6	20	10	12	35												7	19	35
	107	5	8	10	12	15	12											6	12	15
	108	4	15	8	25													3	16	25
	109	4	10	10	12	4	20					10	8					8	9	20
	110	3	15	10	30	12	10	15				12	10					13	19	53
	111	4+	10	8	30	45	2	25										8	19	45
	112	4	12	12	25	15	8	10				8						9	14	25
	113	3	15	6	8	55	12	15	6			4	15					13	15	55
	114	6	15	6	8	25						8						7	12	25
	115	5	15	20	25		8					8			8			7	13	25
	116	4	25	10	12	20	10											10	13	25
	117	4	8	12	25	35	8											8	16	35
	118	-																-	-	-
	119	4	20	30	25	62									4	12		9	22	62
	120	7-	8	12	10	30												5	16	30
	121	4+	35	8	6													5	15	35
	122	5	10	10	10	40		50				4						9	18	50
	123	7-	30		30													2	30	30
	124	5	20	10	12													3	14	20
	125	4	15	12	10	40												6	14	40
	126	4+	10	6	20		8						8					8	13	20
	127	6+	10	10		20	6											7	10	20

Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS – TOP 15 COLLECTIONS																					
YEAR	VAR	R.	957	951	918	275	323	1322	978	1006	578	49	1039	19	869	151	222	TOT	Avg	Max	
1795	128	5+	8	10	15	25	8	12										9	12	25	
	129	5	25	20	12	45												6	26	45	
	130	5-	15	35									8					4	15	35	
	131	4+	12	15	15	53											15	7	22	53	
	132	8																			
1796	101	5				63												3	36	63	
	102	5+																2	15	15	
1797	101	4+																1	20	20	
	102	6-																1	15	15	
1801	101	3	20	15	30		35	35	12	25	25		4	12	10		40	18	26	48	
	102	4+	25	8	40	53	30	30	35	25	8	12	12					14	23	53	
1802	101	3	40	15	30	58	10	20	35	45	10	35	25	18			35	30	20	30	58
1803	101	3	30	20	35	62	15	45	20	30	25	12	40					45	16	31	62
	102	3+	30	10	30	50	20	55	20	40		12	12				35	10	18	27	55
	103	3	45	40	50	50	12	40	35	45	35	15	35	15				20	33	50	
	104	3	45	20	45	58	10	40	25	35		20					25		16	32	58
1805	101	3	40	15	45	58	10	50	20	45	40	15	8	15			25		16	29	58
	102	3	30	8	40	50	15	45	25	30		8	40						15	29	50
	103	5+	25	12	25	55	10	35	20	20									11	21	55
	104	5-	50	8	30	58	12	40	35	40				30					12	31	58
	105	5	40	6	35	20	20	40	30	30	15						35	12	26	40	
	106	3+	35	20	40	62	20	35	30	40	20	15						13	28	62	
	107	5	40	15	40	20	8	20	10	40		4	12					12	25	53	
	108	4+	15	10	40	63	12	30	45	25	25			12				12	28	63	
	109	4-	40	12	25		35	25	30	35	20	10	12					14	24	45	
	110	5	30	10	30		15	45	30	40								8	28	45	
	111	2	25	20	40	58	12	50	30	30	20	15	12	25	30		20	20	26	58	
	112	2	35	20	40	50	35	50	15	53		35	25	30				16	30	53	
	113	4+	25	15	20	30	35	30	15		20		40					13	25	45	
	114	8																			
1806	101	3	40	10	53	8	15	58	35	25	40		35	20			40	40	16	30	58
	102	3+	35	12	53	63	15	58	35	25	20	15	8	20				16	28	63	
	103	2	50	12	40	50	15	53	30	20	45	12			35	20		21	30	53	
	104	4	40	20	25	35	20	45	30	40	40	20			30			15	29	45	
	105	2	40	15	40	55	30		15	40	40	20			10	20		18	28	55	
	106	4	40	35	45	58	25	55	12	45	30	30	20					15	35	58	
	107	4+	30	20	40	40	40	50	35	35	30	30	30		12		40	18	29	50	
	108	7				15												2	14	15	

Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS – TOP 15 COLLECTIONS																				
YEAR	VAR	R.	957	951	918	275	323	1322	978	1006	578	49	1039	19	869	151	222	TOT	Avg	Max
1806	109	1	40	40	30	62	20	55	12	40	25	12	30	15	12	25		27	31	62
	110	6	8	15		45		12	10	25								8	19	45
	111	3	30	15	35	61	4	40	40	40	30	15		15				17	24	61
	112	4	15	15	40		10	45	20	45	35	12			20	45		15	28	45
	113	5	40	25	30		30	35	15	45								8	31	45
	114	4	50	12	25		30	50	40	40	30		12	12				12	31	50
	115	1	45	35	55	62	30	55	12	50	45	15	30		30			21	30	62
	116	3	50	50	55	30	15		30	35	20					20	13	32	55	
	117	5-	40	12	15	30	8	40	30	45	10		30	12				14	26	58
	118	3	45	20	40	8	12		10	20	40	20		25	20		4	16	23	50
	119	3	35	12	35	55	8	62	20	40	40			30		40		15	30	62
	120	3	40	20	40	58	15	53	30	30	45			25				19	30	58
	121	4	40	10	50		8	58	35	30	20	15						15	30	58
	122	6+	8	8	20	35	20	25	25	30								10	25	40
	123	5-	40	8	40	55	20	45	15	20			20	30				13	33	60
	124	6	30	20	12	30	12	35	8	35	15							11	21	35
	125	5	30	45	12		12	25	15		20	25		15				11	25	45
	126	7-	15		8	20		15	15		25							7	22	53
	127	6+	3		10	25		12			12			10				9	12	25
	128	8																		
	129	8				6												1	6	6
	130	8																		
1807	101	5	20	25	53	40	8	50	15	20	25			8				13	23	53
	102	2	50	40	53	63	20	62	35	30	40			15		50	20	34	63	
	103	3	35	40	53	55	8	20	25	20	50			40				15	31	55
	104	5-	40	15		35		40	40	53	25			15				12	29	53
	105	1	30	12	40	62	35		15	30	25	12		20	30	50	40	23	32	62
	106	3	35	20	30	50	10		20	20	25			30	20	25		13	24	50
	107	4+	45	15			15		15	15								7	18	45
	108	3	45	25	50		20	30	12	50	25		25			30		14	27	50
	109	3	30	25	35	50	10	62	35	40		15	40	15				17	31	62
	110	2	30	25	30	64			35	45	40	15	12	35	12		35	18	29	64
	115	7+	12															2	16	20
TOTAL DM's		92	86	81	76	65	59	56	53	42	34	31	29	17	16	16	1083	25.2		
AVG GRADE		26	16	30	40	16	37	24	34	28	15	20	20	20	28	28				

Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS BY GRADE																				
YEAR	VAR	R.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	TOT	AVG	Max
1794	101	3+	25	15	12	10	6											5	14	25
	102	6+	35	6	4													3	15	35
	103	5+	8															1	8	8
	104	5	15	12	12	10	6											5	11	15
	105	5	25	10	6	4	4	3										6	9	25
	106	6-	58	12	8	8												4	22	58
	107	6	20	18	8	8	8	3										6	11	20
	108	7	10															1	10	10
	109	8																		
	110	7+	6	3														2	5	6
	111	8																		
1795	101	7	45															1	45	45
	102	4	20	12	10	10	4	3										6	10	20
	103	5	20	20	12	8												4	15	20
	104	4	25	15	15	10	10	8										6	14	25
	105	3+	58	35	35	25	15	15	15	15	12	12	10	10	8	8		14	20	58
	106	6	35	23	20	20	15	12	10									7	19	35
	107	5	15	12	12	12	10	8										6	12	15
	108	4	25	15	8													3	16	25
	109	4	20	12	10	10	10	8	4	1								8	9	20
	110	3	53	35	30	30	15	15	12	12	10	10	10	8	4			13	19	53
	111	4+	45	30	25	25	10	8	8	2								8	19	45
	112	4	25	25	15	12	12	12	10	8	8							9	14	25
	113	3	55	20	20	15	15	15	12	8	8	8	6	6	4			13	15	55
	114	6	25	15	15	8	8	6	6									7	12	25
	115	5	25	20	15	8	8	8	8									7	13	25
	116	4	25	20	15	12	10	10	10	10	8	8						10	13	25
	117	4	35	25	25	12	8	8	8	6								8	16	35
	118	-																-	-	-
	119	4	62	30	25	25	20	12	10	8	4							9	22	62
	120	7-	30	20	12	10	8											5	16	30
	121	4+	35	20	8	6	4											5	15	35
	122	5	50	40	30	10	10	10	4	3	3							9	18	50
	123	7-	30	30														2	30	30
	124	5	20	12	10													3	14	20
	125	4	40	15	12	10	3	3										6	14	40
	126	4+	20	18	15	15	10	8	8	6								8	13	20
	127	6+	20	10	10	8	8	8	6									7	10	20

Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS BY GRADE																				
YEAR	VAR	R.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	TOT	Avg	Max
1795	128	5+	25	15	12	12	10	8	8	8	8							9	12	25
	129	5	45	40	25	20	12	12										6	26	45
	130	5-	35	15	8	3												4	15	35
	131	4+	53	30	15	15	15	12	12									7	22	53
	132	8																		
1796	101	5	63	30	15													3	36	63
	102	5+	15	15														2	15	15
1797	101	4+	20															1	20	20
	102	6-	15															1	15	15
1801	101	3	48	45	45	40	40	35	35	30	25	25	20	15	12	12	10	18	26	48
	102	4+	53	40	35	35	30	30	25	25	12	12	8	8	8	6		14	23	53
1802	101	3	58	53	48	45	40	35	35	35	35	30	30	30	25	20	18	20	30	58
1803	101	3	62	50	45	45	40	40	35	30	30	25	20	20	15	15	12	16	31	62
	102	3+	55	50	40	40	35	30	30	30	25	25	20	20	20	15	12	18	27	55
	103	3	50	50	50	45	45	40	40	40	40	35	35	35	30	30	25	20	33	50
	104	3	58	45	45	40	40	40	40	40	35	25	25	20	20	20	10	16	32	58
1805	101	3	58	50	45	45	40	40	30	30	25	20	15	15	15	15	10	16	29	58
	102	3	50	50	45	40	40	40	30	30	30	25	20	15	8	8	8	15	29	50
	103	5+	55	35	25	25	20	20	12	12	10	10	8					11	21	55
	104	5-	58	50	40	40	35	30	30	30	30	12	12	8				12	31	58
	105	5	40	40	35	35	30	30	30	20	20	15	10	6				12	26	40
	106	3+	62	40	40	35	35	30	20	20	20	20	15	15	8			13	28	62
	107	5	53	40	40	40	35	20	20	15	12	10	8	4				12	25	53
	108	4+	63	45	40	40	30	25	25	20	15	12	12	10				12	28	63
	109	4-	45	40	35	35	30	25	25	20	12	12	10	10	8			14	24	45
	110	5	45	40	30	30	30	20	15	10								8	28	45
	111	2	58	50	40	35	30	30	30	25	25	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	26	58
	112	2	53	50	50	40	35	35	35	30	30	25	20	20	20	15	12	16	30	53
	113	4+	45	40	35	30	30	25	25	20	20	15	15	12	8			13	25	45
	114	8																		
1806	101	3	58	53	45	40	40	40	35	35	35	25	20	15	12	10	10	16	30	58
	102	3+	63	58	53	50	35	35	25	25	20	20	15	15	12	12	8	16	28	63
	103	2	53	50	50	45	45	40	35	35	30	30	30	20	20	20	20	21	30	53
	104	4	45	40	40	40	35	35	30	30	30	25	20	20	20	20	12	15	29	45
	105	2	55	40	40	40	40	40	30	30	30	20	20	20	20	18	15	18	28	55
	106	4	58	55	50	45	45	45	40	35	30	30	30	25	20	12	10	15	35	58
	107	4+	50	40	40	40	40	35	35	30	30	30	30	30	20	20	20	18	29	50
	108	7	15	12														2	14	15

Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS BY GRADE																				
YEAR	VAR	R.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	TOT	Avg	Max
1806	109	1	62	62	55	53	50	45	40	40	40	40	35	30	30	30	25	27	31	62
	110	6	45	35	25	15	12	10	8	2								8	19	45
	111	3	61	40	40	40	35	30	30	20	15	15	15	15	12	12	10	17	24	61
	112	4	45	45	45	40	40	40	35	25	20	20	15	15	12	12	10	15	28	45
	113	5	45	40	35	30	30	30	25	15								8	31	45
	114	4	50	50	40	40	40	30	30	30	25	12	12	12				12	31	50
	115	1	62	55	55	50	45	45	35	30	30	30	30	30	25	20	20	21	30	62
	116	3	55	50	50	45	35	30	30	30	30	20	20	15	10			13	32	55
	117	5-	58	45	40	40	30	30	30	15	15	12	12	12	10	8		14	26	58
	118	3	50	45	40	40	30	25	20	20	20	20	20	12	10	8	8	16	23	50
	119	3	62	55	40	40	40	35	35	30	30	25	20	12	8	8	6	15	30	62
	120	3	58	53	53	45	45	40	40	30	30	30	25	25	20	15	15	19	30	58
	121	4	58	55	50	45	40	35	35	30	25	20	15	15	10	8	6	15	30	58
	122	6+	40	40	35	30	25	25	20	20	8	8						10	25	40
	123	5-	60	55	50	45	40	40	30	20	20	20	20	15	8			13	33	60
	124	6	35	35	30	30	25	20	15	12	12	10	8					11	21	35
	125	5	45	40	35	30	25	25	20	15	15	12	12					11	25	45
	126	7-	53	25	20	15	15	15	8									7	22	53
	127	6+	25	15	12	12	12	12	10	10	3							9	12	25
	128	8																		
	129	8	6															1	6	6
	130	8																		
1807	101	5	53	50	40	25	25	20	20	15	15	10	8	8	4			13	23	53
	102	2	63	62	58	53	50	50	50	45	40	40	35	30	20	20	15	20	34	63
	103	3	55	53	50	40	40	35	35	30	25	25	20	20	20	15	8	15	31	55
	104	5-	53	40	40	40	40	35	25	20	15	15	12	10				12	29	53
	105	1	62	58	53	50	50	50	50	40	40	35	30	30	30	30	25	23	32	62
	106	3	50	35	30	30	25	25	25	20	20	20	20	10	8			13	24	50
	107	4+	45	15	15	15	15	12	8									7	18	45
	108	3	50	50	45	30	30	25	25	25	20	20	20	15	12	8		14	27	50
	109	3	62	55	50	50	40	40	35	35	30	25	25	15	15	15	10	17	31	62
	110	2	64	53	45	45	40	35	35	35	30	30	25	20	15	15	12	18	29	64
	115	7+	20	12														2	16	20
	TOTAL DM's	102	96	91	87	84	80	73	66	59	54	52	49	43	35	30	1083	25.2		
	Avg Grade	43	35	31	29	26	25	24	23	22	21	19	17	15	15	13				

NOTICE: CAPPED BUST HALF DOLLAR COLLECTORS

Capped Bust Half Dollar Census information for R4 to R8 die marriages is now being solicited for inclusion in the next issue of the **John Reich Journal**.

Please send your complete inventory listing (including ALL duplicates and die states) of R4 to R8 Capped Bust Half Dollar die marriages to Steve Herrman.

Email: **Herrman102@aol.com**

FAX: **303-989-6393**

Note: The top 15 collections shall each be identified by the JRCS membership number of the submitter. Duplicates will be counted and reported as part of the totals. Your personal census will be kept strictly confidential, and shall not be used for any other purpose.

List of R4 to R8 Capped Bust Half Dollar Die Marriages

Year	Var	R.												
1807	111	4+	1818	110	4	1826	114	4+	1827	138	4	1831	117	4
1808	110	4+	1818	115	4+	1826	115	5-	1827	139	4-	1831	120	6
1809	101	5	1819	103	4	1826	119	4-	1827	140	4+	1832	109	4
1809	104	5-	1819	106	4	1826	120	4-	1827	144	5+	1832	114	4+
1809	108	4	1820	104	4+	1827	103	4	1827	145	5	1832	117	4+
1809	110	4+	1820	107	5	1827	108	4-	1827	147	4	1832	119	4-
1809	112	5-	1822	102	4+	1827	109	4-	1827	148	6+	1832	123	7+
1809	113	5	1822	103	5-	1827	110	4-	1827	149	8	1833	111	4+
1809	114	5	1822	112	4	1827	111	4	1828	105	5	1833	115	5+
1811	102	4	1823	102	4	1827	113	4-	1828	106	4+	1833	116	7+
1811	107	4	1823	109	5+	1827	116	4+	1828	111	4	1834	118	4
1811	112	4-	1823	113	7-	1827	122	5	1828	123	5+	1834	119	4
1811	113	5	1824	102	5+	1827	123	5-	1829	106	5-	1834	120	4
1812	101	5-	1824	112	4	1827	124	5+	1829	109	4+	1834	122	7+
1813	102	4	1824	114	5-	1827	127	5	1829	118	4+	1835	111	8
1813	104	4	1825	103	4-	1827	128	4-	1829	120	8	1836	103	4-
1814	106	4+	1825	104	4+	1827	129	4-	1830	105	4	1836	105	4-
1817	102	7-	1825	109	5	1827	133	4	1830	112	4+	1836	107	4
1817	104	6	1825	117	4	1827	134	4	1830	114	5	1836	120	4-
1817	105	4-	1825	118	7+	1827	136	4	1831	113	4	1836	121	5+
1817	108	4	1826	103	5-	1827	137	6	1831	115	4	1836	123	4



When Did Disme Become Dime?

By David Finkelstein

Introduction

Section 9 of the Mint & Coinage Act of April 2, 1792 defined the denominations and values of the copper, silver and gold coins that were to be struck by the first United States Mint. Two of the denominations were:

“DISMES – each to be the value of one tenth of the dollar or unit”

“HALF DISMES – each to be the value of one twentieth of a dollar”

1792 Half Dismes and Dismes were struck with their denominations spelled out on the coins. When the Mint began production of Half Dimes, Half Dollars and Dollars in 1794, and Dimes and Quarters in 1796, the denominations did not appear on the coins. The determination of the denomination of the coin was based on its size.

As numismatists of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, we observed presentations, read in numismatic publications, and discussed these two smallest silver denominations of 1792 with our friends and colleagues. When I started collecting coins in my early teens in the late 1960s, I pronounced Disme as DIZ-ME. As I became more knowledgeable about coins, I pronounced Disme as DEEM. Recently, I became aware that the S in Disme was silent, and that Dime and Disme were pronounced identically.

Although we today refer to the two smallest denominations of silver Flowing Hair, Draped Bust and Capped Bust coins as Half Dimes and Dimes, those that worked at the Mint referred to them as Half Dismes and Dismes. So when did the Half Disme become the Half Dime and the Disme become the Dime?

My Approach

I posed this question to a few dealers and friends. Nobody had an answer. In order to answer the question, I decided to hunt through the Mint documents at the National Archives and Records Administration in Philadelphia. That was easier said than done, as there are tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of pages of Mint documents stored at the NARA.

My focus narrowed to the Bullion Waste Books. Each page of the Waste Book is approximately 12 inches wide and 18 inches high. Each Waste Book contains hundreds of pages and thousands of entries. The Waste Books contain, in part, and in

chronological order, the audit trails of the handwritten receipts for the bullion received from depositors, the warrants issued by the Director of the Mint to move metals and coins within the Mint, and the warrants to return coins back to the depositors.

My theory was that since the 1792 coins had HALF DISME and DISME on them, and the 1837 Seated Liberty coins had HALF DIME and ONE DIME on them, the spelling of Disme to Dime changed on or after 1794 and on or before 1837. This was clearly not my best theory of all time, but it was a start. It reduced the scope of my efforts to about 7,000 entries in the Waste Books.

I decided to use the interval halving technique. I picked a year approximately half way between 1794 and 1837 (1816, which became 1814 since no Half Dismes or Dismes are known dated 1815 and 1816), located a Waste Book entry during that year that contained Half Dismes or Dismes (in this case, Dismes only), then checked the spelling (Dismes or Dimes). Based on the result, I picked another year half way earlier or half way later, and repeated the process. After about 15 minutes of searching through the Waste Books, I found the changeover from Disme to Dime.

Waste Book Analysis

Figure 1 is an image of the Waste Book entry for Delivery Warrant # 5, dated March 30, 1795. It specified that 46,808 Half Dollars and 7,756 Half Dismes valued at \$23,791.80 were delivered from the Chief Coiner (to the Treasurer of the Mint). This is the first Delivery Warrant that included Half Dismes. Note that “dismes” was spelled with the long S (which made the “s” look like an “f”).

30.

*Silver Coinage D. to Chief Coiner his
account of Silver
received from him in pursuance of a warrant
of the Director 5.*

46,808 half dollars	23,404
7,756 half dismes	387.80
20619 oz 11 dwt 4 gr.	23791.80

Figure 1 – Delivery Warrant 5

Figure 2 is an image of the Waste Book entry for Delivery Warrant # 1,452, dated December 31, 1835. It specified that 244,000 Half Dollars, 320,000 Quarter Dollars, 90,000 Dismes, and 160,000 Half Dismes valued at \$219,000.00 were delivered from the Chief Coiner (to the Treasurer of the Mint). This was the last delivery of Half Dismes and Dismes spelled “Dismes”. Note that in the early 19th century, the long S became obsolete and was no longer used in the English language.

126	Silver Coinage Dr. To Chief Coiner his act of Silver	
85	Received from him in pursuance of a warrant of the	
	Director No 1452	
	244,000 Half Dollars	
	320,000 Quarter Dollars	
	90,000 Dismes	
	160,000 Half Dismes	
	189.800 ounces 0 dwt. Standard Silver	219,000.00

Figure 2 – Delivery Warrant 1,452

Figure 3 is an image of the Waste Book entry for Delivery Warrant # 1,457, dated March 31, 1836. This is the first Delivery Warrant that spelled Dimes as “Dimes”. 271,000 Half Dollars, 48,000 Quarter Dollars, and 160,000 Half Dimes, valued at \$155,500.00, were delivered from the Chief Coiner (to the Treasurer of the Mint).

85	Silver Coinage Dr. To Chief Coiner his act of Silver	
126	Received from him this day in pursuance of a warrant	
	of the Director No 1457	
	271,000 Half Dollars	
	48,000 Quarter Dollars	
	160,000 Half Dimes	
	1347.66 oz. 13 dwt. 8 gr. Standard Silver	155,500.00

Figure 3 – Delivery Warrant 1,457

All future entries in the Waste Book no longer referred to the two smallest silver denominations as Half Dismes and Dismes, but as Half Dimes and Dimes.

What Is So Special About March, 1836?

Why did Disme become Dime in March, 1836? Why not in 1837 when “DIME” appeared on the reverse of the Seated Liberty coinage? What makes March, 1836 special?

According to the U S Mint website, the steam powered coining press was first used to strike coinage on March 23, 1836¹. It is unclear as to whether or not coins (Half Cents through Eagles) were actually struck on March 23rd in the steam press. What is known is that to commemorate this major event in Mint history, Engraver Christian Gobrecht prepared dies for a medal to be struck on cent planchets. The ceremony was initially scheduled for February 22, 1836 (George Washington’s birthday), but cancelled when the steam press developed mechanical problems. After the mechanical issues were resolved, the “official” ceremony occurred on March 23, 1836.²

Mint Director Robert M. Patterson sent some of the copper medals to Treasury Secretary Levi Woodbury with the following note: *“I also send, by this mail, some copper pieces struck at the mint today on our new press by steam. They are the first ever struck by this power in America. We must consider this day, therefore, as marking an epoch in our coinage.”*³

Walter Breen stated in his *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* that “The name *disme*, ‘tenth’ late (about 1836) anglicized to *dime*, is a neologism... ”.⁴

Was DIME a newly formed word, invented by someone at the Mint in 1836 as Breen suggests? Was it simply coincidence that DIME was first used on a Delivery Warrant approximately 1 week after the official ceremony of the launch of the steam press? Only time and additional research will tell. I have been attempting to reverse engineer the die preparation techniques and implementation standards employed at the first U S Mint for over 20 years. In addition to analyzing the coins, I have analyzed hundreds of Mint documents, totaling thousands of pages. One thing that I have determined is that although there is additional information still to uncover, there are no coincidences.

References

1. www.usmint.gov, Interactive Timeline.
2. "Little known medals make a challenging set", R. W. Julian, Numismatic News, March 09, 2009.
3. NGC Special Display, US Mint Medals Presented to MINT DIRECTOR ROBERT M. PATTERSON, Numismatic Guaranty Corporation, July, 2012.
4. Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins, 1988, Page 152.



1792 Disme, AU55 NGC. Image courtesy Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society, Numismatic Guaranty Corporation, and Heritage Auctions (HA.com)



1792 Half Disme, SP67 PCGS. Image Courtesy Heritage Auctions (HA.com)



Terminal State of 1804 Browning 1: The EPN specimen By Nathan Markowitz



Two die marriages exist for the key date 1804 quarter. The 1804 Browning 1 quarter is easily identified by the raised die defect between star 8 and 9 and the “low 4” in the date and normally exists heavily clashed but without prominent die breaks. The late state of the 1804 B-1 is infrequently seen and characterized by a prominent curvilinear break through the “0” of the date extending superiorly into Miss Liberty’s bust. This die stage is estimated to represent 10-20% of extant examples of the scarce 1804 dated draped bust quarter by admittedly rather crude estimates.

Terminal State of 1804 Browning 1: The EPN specimen

Examination of the high grade 1804 quarter sold as part of the Eric P Newman Part II collection in NYC revealed some interesting findings. Close examination of this coin in person(author) with tilting in the light unveiled an additional prominent break almost representing a folding of metal on the coin surface which tracked from the shoulder of the bust by the lower hair locks across the chin and into the field by star 10 where the break fizzled. In addition, the aforementioned break through “O” in the date was seen to intersect this latter break. Finally, another die break intersects start 11-12 in the right obverse field. High grade examples of 1804 are infrequently seen but this is the first example described with this break. This certainly raises the tantalizing possibility that an example exists where a massive cud forms over the right lower side of the obverse in this die marriage. Arguing strongly against an extant example of a catastrophic terminal state is the remote likelihood that examples of this valuable date remain hidden to collectors. We cannot with certainty exclude other examples of a similar die progression but this coin “in hand” shows striking changes not well described previously. We ask those who own a late state 1804 to carefully check their coins so we might confirm other examples of this or a later state. Once again, these observations show we have much to learn from coins “in plain sight” as this coin has been illustrated dating to the seminal work of Ard Browning in 1925.

Photo courtesy Heritage Galleries and Rory Rea(enhancements)

Thanks to Rory Rea for his review and assistance in preparation of this article



Silver Coins at the EAC Convention

By Dr. Glenn Peterson

We had a great time at the Happenings meeting in Colorado Springs. We shared a room with our copper collector colleagues at the happenings event. They showed interesting die marriages of half cents and large cents and we displayed examples of half dimes, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars. We showed 13 examples of the 1829 LM 18 half dime, an excellent number of examples of this R5 marriage. We had coins showing just one crack at stars 2-4 and several with two cracks from the rim below star 2 to the rim above star 4. We had two examples of the die marriage showing retained cuds. The first acquired by me from the Reiver sale had the cud demonstrating a section of the die being laterally displaced but not sinking. The last coin borrowed from a friend showed the area of the coin affected by the cud elevated from the rest of the field. In this retained cud, the piece of the die was beginning to sink and pull away from the rest of the die. Does anyone else have such an advanced cud on the 1829 LM 18?

Dimes displayed included both die marriages of 1824. Beautiful examples in mint state highlighted the 1824/2 overdate. The JR 1 and JR 2 share the same obverse but the more common JR 1 has a defective 1 in the denomination. The quarter 1818 B 9 was highlighted by a beautiful example of the deeply clashed arrowheads on the obverse above star 8.

Half dollars displayed included the 1814 O-106, which in late die states has a reverse crack so strong that it almost appears as though a piece on the coin could snap off from the rest of the coin. The second die marriage displayed was the 1827 O-108. This coin shows a remarriage with the 1828 O-101. The 1827 O-108 prime has F unfilled and many die dots below UNITED. The reverse next used in 1828 has these dots gradually being lapped away and F filling. When it is again used for the 1827 a there remains just one dot below UNITED and the F is filled. We enjoyed showing this die marriage to our copper colleagues who do not get to see many remarriages on their large and half cents. We turned the half dollars over showing the reverses and asked them to sort the coins by die state and upon uprighting the coins the remarriage became apparent. For the bust dollars we had beautiful examples of 1798 B16, BB10. We had 3 examples with the latest being in mint state and showing a full cud left of the date. A beautiful coin! I was demonstrating both the dollars and the half dimes at the show and I got my share of ribbing from the collectors about the half dimes being too small to see “and now this coin (the bust dollar) I can see”.

This year I made sure to get around the room and view the half and large cents. They showed me several die marriages with giant cuds developing on late die states of the copper coins. This is what I most like about the happenings - sharing the coins we love with our colleagues and an exchange of ideas about mint production of coins from that era.

The next day we took a tour of the ANA museum. An ANA employee gave us a special treat. They had a die press similar to that used in the early 1800s. They also had a planchet cutting device to cut the planchet from a metal strip made of Pewter. I was allowed to work the dies to make a token depicting Miss Liberty, inscribed "Early American Coppers Colorado Springs 2014." I double struck and even flip over double struck the tokens and even formed one piece with an incomplete planchet cut onto the token. A lot of fun.

Next year the EAC/ JRCS meeting will be in Dallas TX. I urge everyone to attend the meeting - one of the premiere numismatic events of the year.



EAC token produced at the ANA museum struck off center



**EAC token produced at the ANA museum double struck
90 degree rotation**



Bust half 1814 O-106 early die state before crack



Bust half 1827 O-108 prime first die marriage



Bust half dime 1829 LM-18

Intermediate die state

Late die state



David Finkelstein wins the 2013 Jules Reiver Numismatic Literary Award

By Stephen A. Crain

The winner of the 2013 Jules Reiver Numismatic Literary Award is David Finkelstein, for his thoroughly researched article entitled "How a Death, a Scandal, a Family Connection and Two Loyal Friends Contributed to Benjamin Rush's Appointment as Treasurer of the United States Mint" appearing in Issue 3, Volume 23 of the John Reich Journal. Congratulations to David for his excellent article, and for his numerous and scholarly contributions to the John Reich Journal.

There were votes for nearly every article to appear in Volume 23 of the John Reich Journal, attesting to the fact that there is serious interest among the readers for all of the contributions by our authors. Hopefully this will encourage some of you would-be authors to submit an article on the numismatic subject of your choice, and maybe you can be a future recipient of the prestigious Jules Reiver Numismatic Literary Award, to be presented at the annual JRCS membership meeting at the American Numismatic Association Summer Convention in August.

Hall of Fame Voting Results

By Richard Meaney

The JRCS Hall of Fame committee for 2014 has selected two people to the JRCS Hall of Fame from a total of five nominees in two categories. In the "Veteran" category (pre-JRCS), Stew Witham was the unanimous choice of the committee. In the "Modern" category (the JRCS era), Henry Hilgard took the lions share of the votes.

Stew Witham joins Dr. Daniel W. Valentine, Ard W. Browning, J. Colvin Randall, and Al C. Overton as Hall of Fame inductees in the Veteran category. In the Modern category, Henry Hilgard joins Russell J. Logan, Jules Reiver, David J. Davis, Edward Price, and John McCloskey in the Hall of Fame.

The membership is encouraged to send nominations for the Hall of Fame at any time. You can nominate candidates for either the veteran or the modern categories, or for both. Please include any pertinent information about the nominee that you feel necessary. Nominees will then be voted on by the Hall of Fame committee and the inductees will be announced at the annual meeting at the ANA convention in the summer. Please forward your nominations to JRCS President Brad Karoleff at bkaroleff@yahoo.com or to JRCS Vice-President Richard Meaney at jrnewsletter@jrcs.org or to any of the other members of the JRCS board of officers.

